



Homeschooler adventures page 12

Breaking News:

Long-time Editor Steps Down

This issue brings good wishes for the new year to you our readers from all of us at the newspaper.

This issue also brings the announcement of my stepping down from the position of editor after 45 years of continuous service, plus a couple of short stints earlier.

One could say I have had a life-long love affair with newspapers. We were always a two-newspaper family when I was growing up in Chicago – Tribune in the morning, Sun Times in the evening. I remember the “Dewey Wins” bold headline in the Tribune in 1948. I had a brief stint as sports-page editor in ninth grade and three years on my college newspaper, two as business manager. I also enjoyed writing – gathering and organizing information and putting the results down on paper. Term papers usually raised my grades.

In the winter of 1962, when I arrived in Greenbelt newly married, the News Review was working on the 25-year history of the city. Discovering that I had been a history major, my neighbor Virginia Beauchamp, then editor, invited me to participate, which I did, also proofreading at her house some Wednesday nights. On Tuesday nights in those early years I mostly recall how hard it was to write headlines.

One of my first assignments was to cover the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) board meeting when charging the newspaper rent for our basement office on Parkway was on the agenda. What we paid to GHI was called out-of-pocket expenses for electricity, heat and water. To call it rent could mean an antagonistic board could raise the rent far above what we could pay. If there were board members undecided on the issue, they might



PHOTO BY PEGGY HIGGINS

Mary Lou Williamson

be less inclined to see the new female cub reporter as the enemy. The agenda item failed and was never brought up again.

I was given another somewhat similar assignment as a neutral reporter when I wrote one of the two city council stories that were later cited in the 1965 libel suit. During the following months, senior staff members worked with the lawyers preparing for trial. My job was to keep the paper running smoothly.

It is perhaps worth saying that for the first 25 years of the Cooperator/News Review there were 39 editors. I like to guess there were a lot of loud voices in those early years, pushing a wide variety of ideas – something Greenbelt has always enjoyed – both from the editorial staff and from our readers. I really don't know, I wasn't there then.

What I do know is that during the past 50-some years, the paper has developed and maintained a slow but steady strength in providing this community with a reliable stream of useful and necessary information. A quiet strength that I like to believe I have contributed to.

We have covered our impor-

See EDITOR, page 9

City Zoning Rewrite Meeting Covers NCO, Legacy Zones

by Kathleen Gallagher

Prince George's County launched the major undertaking of rewriting its aged Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations more than three years ago. Many countywide meetings and presentations later, it is not yet near the finish line but the focus is narrowing. It will be turned over to the county council fairly soon and it is beginning to be imaginable that there may someday be a light at the end of this tunnel.

On December 4 the city council held yet another meeting with Terri Hruby, acting director of the city's planning department, Chad Williams, project director for the rewrite team with the planning department; of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC); and City Manager Nicole Ard.

Regarding the schedule going forward, Williams said he expects

his office will complete analysis of the latest round of comments by early February and have the legislative draft ready for the county council by early spring. Depending upon the council's schedule, it is likely they will not take action until the fall of 2018. The countywide map amendment would then be adopted in 2019. Since the new zoning ordinance will not take effect until the map amendment is adopted, public hearings will be held in conjunction with that event, and there will be an appeals process available when the map is released.

The occasion for the meeting was a significant leap forward in the process. Where previously the project has been discussed in terms of its various parts and modules, the Comprehensive Review Draft, which puts the pieces together, had recently been released for public review. Comments were due by December 15.

The purpose of the meeting was for council to review the staff's recommended comments on the Comprehensive Review Draft. A significant part of the discussion involved measures to compensate for the loss of the formal and informal procedures currently in place that will be eliminated along with the Residential Planned Community (RPC) Zone, which includes historic Greenbelt.

The worksession attracted about 10 audience members, most of whom were residents or representatives of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI), which has a significant stake in the aspects of the rewrite that impact its own property as well as the broader area considered to be historic Greenbelt.

Until fairly recently, the city and GHI anticipated that

See ZONING, page 8

Christmas Bird Count Keeps The 118-Year Tradition Alive

by Matt Arbach



PHOTO BY MATT ARBACH

John Stith (coordinator) and Jamie Jorgensen (first-time volunteer) participate in the annual January 1 bird census.

What Goes On

Monday, January 8
8 p.m., Council Meeting, Municipal Building
Tuesday, January 9
5:30 to 7 p.m., Coffee with the Chief, New Deal Café
Wednesday, January 10
8 p.m., Council Worksession with Roosevelt Center Merchants Association, Community Center

On a frigid January 1, 13 volunteers over the course of the day, equipped with binoculars and tally sheets, gathered at Buddy Attick Park, Lake Artemesia, Greenbelt Homes, Inc. and Greenbelt Park to participate in this year's Christmas Bird Count. They worked until sunset and afterward converged at TJ Elliot's in Bowie for the tally dinner to ascertain their final count.

The focus of the count is to ascertain “where birds reside in the winter, which for many species is a very different place than where they spend the summer,” said John Stith, who acted as the coordinator for the Greenbelt area this year for the first time. He is a board member of the Prince George's Audubon Society (PGAS) which is one of the organizers for this count. He cited the example of the chimney swift, which nests here in summer and spends the winter in South America. Of special interest to this count are the 17 duck species that have a presence at Greenbelt Lake each year. Factors such as weather patterns and ice conditions will determine which species will be observed. Said Stith, “we get to see one piece of the puzzle,” adding the information gathered “to study the health of birds and ecosystems.”

This year marks the 118th Christmas Bird Count. Each year, around 2,500 local counts occur, predominantly in the Americas. Counts are done with-

in established circles 15 miles in diameter, with each circle counted on one day from mid-December through early January. The tradition began in 1900 by an officer of the Audubon Society, now known as the National Audubon Society, established in 1905. The idea was to create an alternative to the tradition of bird hunting on Christmas. At the time, the over-hunting of birds had led to major species decline, even extinction in some cases.

The Greenbelt area is part of a circle centered in Bowie. The first count for this region was in 1972. In addition to PGAS, the Patuxent Bird Club is involved in this count. “We normally find about 100 species in the entire Bowie circle on count day,” says Stith.

Information gathered on the count will be available to ornithologists, land managers and the public. Said Stith, “many conservation plans and land protection efforts stem from systematic counting of bird populations.” Climate effects are evident from the data collected. “The ranges of many species have been shrinking as the edge of their range becomes too hot or dry, while the food supply or habitat they need isn't found in other places,” Stith said.

He further stated, “I started counting several years ago when I lived in Greenbelt. A few years ago, I woke up at 4 a.m., See BIRD COUNT, page 8

The Greenbelt News Review Seeks Applicants for Editor

The ideal person will be a city resident, familiar with the community. She or he will be a strong writer and editor capable of producing consistent and highly readable copy working within a team. While previous editorial or newspaper experience is a plus, common sense, an eagle eye, good person-to-person skills and a can-do attitude are primary.

The successful candidate will be conversant with modern technology, particularly as it applies to printing, including familiarity with graphics, spreadsheets, camera-ready copy and file management; will be comfortable working in a peer situation with a mix of volunteers and paid staff and adept at addressing groups of citizens and city businesses and government to express the paper's message.

The Greenbelt News Review is a worker cooperative. This position is part time, approximately 16 hours per week and on a schedule aligned with newspaper publication. This will generally include office hours and some evening work Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Questions may be addressed to applications@greenbeltnews-review.com. A short letter of application and a resume no more than two pages in length should be sent to the same email address by no later than January 26.

Letters to the Editor

Live Green by Eating Local Vegetables

We are writing to express our gratitude to Greenbelt for making it easier to be green. Specifically, we are glad to have a local CSA! For those who don't know, CSA stands for Community Supported Agriculture. It is basically a vegetable subscription. For a flat fee at the beginning of each season, we get an amazing amount of fresh, local vegetables every week (every other week in the winter). There is fruit (fabulous berries and melons), too, but we like the vegetables best. Ten years ago, we could not have pointed out a kohlrabi, much less known what to do with one. But trying foods we never knew existed has been part of the fun. The only ones Kate has not managed to eat are the beets. Fortunately, her neighbors like them. The boxes of veggies that you may have seen at the New Deal Café on Thursdays are from the Calvert Farms CSA. There are other CSAs, but the New Deal is a convenient place for us to pick up. Some subscribers get eggs, too. We have heard they are delicious and we might need to look into that.

We are excited that a new winter season is starting mid-January and there are a few more slots open. To sign up or find out more information about this wonderful resource in Greenbelt, check out the website at calvertfarm.com or contact Farmer Pam directly at 410-658-3914 or farmer@calvertfarm.com.

Kate Phelan and
Katrina Boverman

Let's Stop SCMaglev

On October 24, 2017, the Greenbelt City Council (the Council) sent a letter to the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) opposing the superconducting magnetic levitation train project (the SCMaglev project). We think the Council should now invite elected officials from the Maryland General Assembly (the General Assembly) and the Prince George's County Council (the County Council) to a public worksession to show unity in opposing the two SCMaglev routes under consideration for the City of Greenbelt.

When the City of Bowie held a meeting regarding the SCMaglev project on September 5, the Bowie City Council expressed unanimous opposition to the project in its entirety. They were joined by members of the Maryland General Assembly, County Councilmember Todd Turner and more than 30 Bowie residents. The outcome of this unified opposition was the removal from future consideration of two of the three routes that had been proposed for Bowie.

At the regular Greenbelt City Council meeting held on October 9, members of the Council

stressed two objectives as being important: (1) reaching out to elected officials from Bowie and other impacted cities; and (2) informing the public. However, the worksession held just two days later, with representatives from the company proposing the SCMaglev project, failed to meet both objectives. We believe the public was unaware of the purpose and significance of the worksession because it was advertised in the News Review with only the name of the company without a description or agenda as required by the Maryland Open Meetings Act. According to the minutes, officials from other jurisdictions did not attend and only eight members of the public were present.

The Council's letter to the MTA opposes the SCMaglev project. We encourage the Council to follow-up with a second worksession – but advertised in accordance with the Maryland Open Meetings Act.

The proposed SCMaglev routes are new and the one ultimately selected will require the construction of a completely new infrastructure which would include the new guideway, stations and maintenance facilities. We agree with Senator Paul Pinsky (District 22) that we need to focus on making improvements to our existing transportation infrastructure rather than focusing on the construction of a new infrastructure that promises major disruption along the routes under consideration.

We believe it is important to inform the public about the SCMaglev project, and to organize those in the public that are opposed to it.

Brian and Donna Almquist
Greenbelt Advocates for Environmental and Social Justice

Cwizzical Cow Conundrum Cleared

Re. your recent article Beaver Dam's Cwizzical Cow: When you ran a picture of the cow about a year or so ago, and asked if anyone knew who drew it, I called your office immediately and told you who the artist was: Elva Brocht, who lives on Rosedale Lane right off Beaver Dam. She is a great artist who draws for pleasure. (Another example of her work is the wonderful horse I am greeted with each time I open my front door!)

Barbara Benfield

Need More Facts On SCMaglev

I am writing about the proposed new SCMaglev between Baltimore and Washington that is planned to be built near Greenbelt.

I am very grateful for the balanced reporting in the Greenbelt News Review by James Giese during the past several weeks. I

support the opinions of Bob Snyder in the December 14 and 28, 2017 issues of the News Review.

I do not want to see the United States falling behind in technology. Maglev, hyperloop, hydrogen and other transportation modes are being developed in Asia, Europe and other U.S. states. Japanese participation in building the Baltimore-Washington route could be good since they have experience with SCMaglev and can help us avoid problems and delays. But we don't want other countries to stay ahead of us. If we build the SCMaglev in the eastern U.S., this will enable us to regain superiority in technology. Our local schools, colleges and universities are already strong in technology, so this would be another cutting-edge technology for them to pursue, bringing in top-notch

See LETTERS, page 4

Correction

In the Remembering Greenbelters Who Died in 2017 column on December 28, Shirley Gray Bailey's age at death was incorrect. She was 85. Our apologies to the Bailey family.



Old Greenbelt Theatre
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbelttheatre.org
Members always \$6.50!
Adults \$9, Senior/Student \$8, Members \$6.50, Kids \$6
All shows before 5 PM:
Adults \$7, Members \$6.50, Kids \$5
OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions

SHOWTIMES
Jan 5th - Jan 11th

THE GREATEST SHOWMAN
(PG) (CC) (105 mins)
Fri. 5:15, 7:45 PM
Sat. 2:45, 5:15, 7:45 PM
w/ Guest Speaker!
Sun. 3:00 (OC), 5:15, 7:45 PM
Mon.-Thurs. 5:15, 7:45 PM

DECONSTRUCTING THE BEATLES: REVOLVER
(2017) (90 mins)
Sat. 12:00 PM
Mon. 2:45 PM
Wed. 2:45 PM

New Series!
Films for a Better Tomorrow:
GRAND ILLUSION - FREE!
(35mm) (117 mins)
(Subtitled in English)
Sun. 12:30 PM

STORYTIME ON SCREEN FREE!
(It's a PJ Party this time!)
Mon. 10:30 AM



"I knew I was in trouble when she introduced me as her 'Insignificant Other.'"

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Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 10 p.m.

On Screen

Showman Continues; Speaker

The Greatest Showman continues at Old Greenbelt Theatre this Friday, January 5 and features a guest speaker for the Saturday, January 6 showing at 7:45 p.m. Jackie Mansky is an assistant web editor for Smithsonian magazine. She will be joining us for discussion after the film.

PG Running time: 105 minutes

- Jim Link

Community Events

Overeaters Meet

Overeaters Anonymous is a fellowship of individuals who are together recovering from a wide variety of food challenges, including overeating, anorexia, bulimia, obsessively thinking of food among others. If you are looking for help, you are invited to a Newcomers Welcome to Overeaters Anonymous on Monday January 8, 15 and 22 at 7 pm at the Greenbelt Baptist Church, 101 Greenhill Road in Greenbelt. There is no charge. For more info call 240-305-3433 or 202-362-8571.

Family Group Meets

Families Anonymous is a 12-step fellowship for people concerned about the use of mind-altering substances or related behavioral problems or a relative or friend. The group meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the Step Club, 141 Centerway. See FamiliesAnonymous.org for more information.

Computer Club Meets

The Greenbelt Computer Club will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, January 11 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Room 112 of the Community Center. Everyone is welcome to the discussions about the latest in computers, tablets and consumer electronics. Basic troubleshooting advice for Windows computers and some for Apple iPad and iPhone is available.

Star Party Saturday

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will host a star party, free and open to the public, on Saturday, January 6 at the City Observatory, located at Northway Fields. Through the Observatory telescope, attendees may expect to see deep sky objects such as galaxies, nebulae (including the Orion Nebula) and star clusters, viewed with our astronomical camera. As always, visitors are welcome to set up their own telescopes on the hill.

Observing will begin at around 6 p.m. and continue for two hours. Attendees are asked to park in the ballfield lot, not up on the hill, unless bringing a telescope. The star party will be canceled without notice if it is hopelessly cloudy.

Art Share Program Friday, January 5

Local artists are invited to participate in a free Art Share at 7 p.m. on Friday, January 5, sponsored by the Greenbelt Recreation Department Arts Program. Art Shares is a new series of gatherings in which artists working in all media can meet up for a constructive, informal discussion of everyone's work. Artists of all experience levels are welcome. Please bring one to three pieces of your work. The upcoming Art Share will take place in Room 113 at the Community Center.

For additional information, contact Amanda Demos Larsen at alarsen@greenbeltmd.gov. Visit greenbeltmd.gov/arts to learn about additional Arts Program activities and follow Greenbelt Recreation ARTS on Facebook. Arts programs are sponsored in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.

Upcoming Events At the New Deal

Sunday, January 7, 10:30 a.m. to noon, Deaf Group: Weekly Brunch Meeting. Deaf and hearing people socialize together using sign language. Newcomers welcome. 7 to 9 p.m., Mark Wenner presents: McKinley James. With influences that range from Link Wray to Freddie King and Otis Redding, 16-year-old gifted rock and roll guitarist/singer James has performed with the likes of Chris Duarte, The Nighthawks, Joe Beard and JD McPherson. James is also the face of the latest Eric Church album campaign, having starred in his music videos, and also appears on the album cover for Church's latest record, Mr. Misunderstood. He will be joined by Mark Wenner (The Nighthawks), Zach Sweeney, Jason Smay and Ray Jacildo.

Tuesday, January 9, 7 to 9:30 p.m., The Bachelor and the Bad Actress. Anarchist honky tonk. The Overbite Sisters & the Lost Retainers – songs you love, sung with teeth. Casanovela – loud folks playing loud folk.

Wednesday, January 10, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., Michael Kelly. Tasteful, melodic acoustic guitar with soulful vocals and poetic storytelling. 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., Lynn Hollyfield. Blend a powerful, passionate singer, a crisp, acoustic guitar player and a heartfelt observer of the world and you will have a WAMMIE nominated singer/songwriter.

Thursday, January 11, noon to 2 p.m., Mid-Day Melodies with Amy C Kraft. 7 to 10 p.m., Open Mic with James & Martha.

Friday, January 12, 6:30 to 8 p.m., Jazz and blues piano by John Guernsey. 8:30 to 11:30 p.m., The 8-Balls. Get your classic rock groove on with this great band featuring music from the 60s and 70s.

Saturday, January 13, 4 to 6 p.m., Bruce Kritt, classical guitar. 6:30 to 8 p.m., Jazz and blues piano by John Guernsey. 8:30 to 11:30 p.m., Karen Collins and the Backroads Band. Join this multiple WAMMIE-nominated band for some classic honky tonk, original roots songs and vintage country from the 1940s through the 1970s.

Contra Dance Jan 6

The monthly Greenbelt contra dance will take place on Saturday, January 6 from 7 to 9:45 p.m. in the Youth Center gym. The local Greenbelt band Transatlantic Crossing, otherwise known as Anne, Jon, David, Elizabeth and Rebecca Gardner, will provide live music. The caller is April Blum.

Contra dance is fun! No previous experience is necessary and it is not necessary to bring a partner. It is danced to live music, which can have an array of instruments depending on the band. There is a caller who teaches each dance and calls the moves. Once you get the moves for the dance, the pattern just repeats itself. At 6:30 p.m. there is a 30-minute lesson to go over all the basic steps that will be called.

The City of Greenbelt co-sponsors the monthly contra dances with the Folklore Society of Greater Washington. These dances take place at the Community Center gym on the first Saturday of the month when the gym is not reserved for other events. Note that this month's dance will take place in the Youth Center gym. Call 301-397-2208 for more information. There is a fee.

Food Recovery Planning Meeting

All are invited to meet on Saturday, January 13, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the New Deal Café to devise a plan for recovering food from the Greenbelt Co-op. This plan will be presented to the Co-op and its board for approval and implementation.

Situation: there is a lot of grocery food waste

Objective: to reduce food waste

Strategy: develop a food recovery plan

Tactic: partner with food recovery organizations

More Community Events
are located throughout
the paper.

Free Tutoring Program

Students in elementary and middle schools in the Greenbelt area are invited to sign up for a free 12-week tutoring program. The Better Place, Inc., a nonprofit organization, will be implementing Project Tutor from January 20 to April 28 at the Greenbelt Library. Meetings will be held on Saturdays from 1 to 3 p.m. The youth of the Greenbelt community are invited to help support their peers in becoming career and college ready.

Students from middle and high schools can receive community service hours by signing up as volunteer tutors and will help promote peer-to-peer tutoring. Interested volunteers will be trained as tutors on Saturday, January 13 from 1 to 3 p.m. in the small meeting room at the Library. Tutoring will begin Saturday, January 20. Contact Chris Person by email chriswperson@yahoo.com to sign up for tutoring or to be trained as a volunteer tutor. Project Tutor: Guardians of Greenbelt is funded and sponsored by the Greenbelt Community Foundation.

Launch Party for OGT Volunteer Program

Thank you to all who love and support the Old Greenbelt Theatre (OGT) as members, donors, volunteers and informal cheerleaders. We so appreciate all you do.

Welcome in 2018 by joining a brand new OGT volunteer program. Join the program's launch party on Saturday, January 6 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Community Center, Room 114.

The occasion is for all who want to volunteer for the theater, who are just curious about volunteering options and also those who already volunteer on a regular basis. We will use the results of our recent survey and other input to set up volunteer sections and coordinators. Meet others who share your volunteering interests. Learn about upcoming volunteering opportunities.

Let's learn, have fun and help grow the Old Greenbelt Theatre, our fabulous community resource. Enjoy light refreshments.

No registration needed, but feel free to send questions or comments to aileen@dynamic-governance.org.

Utopia Film Festival

Presents

“Super Charge Me: 30 Days of Raw,”
and “Autism: Made in the USA”

Sunday, Jan. 7th, Wed., 10th, & Fri., 12th
Beginning at 8 PM

*Happy New Year from the
Utopia Film Festival Committee!*

On Greenbelt Access Television, Inc. (GATe)
Comcast 77 & Verizon Fios 19 Channels

Greenbelt Arts Center COMING SOON

ALMOST, MAINE



by John Cariani

Directed by Bob Kleinberg

January 26 - February 17

Ticket prices: \$22 General Admission, \$20 Students/Seniors/Military,
\$12 Youth (12 and under with adult)

PLEASE GIVE TO OUR LIGHTING CAMPAIGN
LET THERE BE LIGHTS
<https://igg.me/at/lightGAC>

COMING SOON

GAC Cleanout Weekend: Jan 13 - 14
Angel Street – March 2 - 24

For information & reservations, call 301-441-8770 or
email: info@greenbeltartscenter.org or
BOOK TICKETS ONLINE at www.greenbeltartscenter.org



Greenbelt Access Television

2nd Floor, Greenbelt Community Center, Suite 204
www.greenbeltaccessstv.org • Studio: 301-507-6581

*Happy New Year from the
Greenbelt Access Television Board of Directors and Staff*

*Free and Open to the Public
Orientation Class
Thursday, Jan. 4th from 7 – 10 PM*

*Members Only – Reservation required
Adobe Premiere Pro editing class - \$\$
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 – 10PM
January 9th through March 1*

Canon Camera Class - \$
Saturday, Jan. 20th from 9:30 AM – 4PM and
Monday, Jan 22nd, from 7 – 10PM

Check out our Channel on Comcast 77 and Verizon Fios 19
For our schedule, visit: www.greenbeltaccessstv.org and click on “Channel”

Letters continued from page 2

professors and researchers.

As our people gain expertise, we can create new industries, therefore new, well-paying jobs. Even though there is no stop near Greenbelt and therefore of little use to us for the near future, the train's goal is to extend from Charlotte to Boston. When those additional stations are built, the SCMaglev will be much more attractive to Greenbelters. Instead of driving several hours to any of those cities, we could go to D.C. or Baltimore (usually less than 1 hour) to catch the SCMaglev, then another hour or two to arrive at our destination in the middle of the city, ready and rested for our activities there. The entire transportation time may make it possible to take a round-trip in one day, saving hotel costs.

Safety: The train cannot derail since it is in a U-shaped guideway. When the train is above ground, it is elevated, and therefore does not interfere with road traffic. There is much less likelihood of animals or people on the tracks since there is very limited access to the underground tracks, and the aboveground tracks are very high and difficult to climb. The SCMaglev is a good alternative for travel when airports are unavailable due to storms, terrorist threats or electrical outages.

Comfort: There is much more space on a train than on an airplane, which is very cramped. Not only are individual seats much larger, but also restrooms and aisles. And trains have more amenities, such as a dining car. You can even walk around, possibly between train cars. SCMaglev has a much smoother ride than trains on tracks because it does not touch the track. Curves are wider, so there is less G force throwing you off balance.

Environment: SCMaglev is less polluting because it uses electricity instead of fossil fuels. Also, it produces less noise to disturb us because it is underground from Washington, D.C., until north of Greenbelt.

It is good to have competition between Amtrak/Acela, airplanes and SCMaglev which ultimately reduces the price and increases amenities on each. The President has promised infrastructure improvements and this is a good candidate. Also, recent reports of Washington, D.C., having poor traffic resiliency indicate that additional forms of transportation would improve our area's ability to absorb adverse events.

I attended the meeting at Eleanor Roosevelt High School on November 27, 2017. It was extremely focused on opposing the SCMaglev, with only a few people providing unbiased information. There is a lot of misinformation, fear-mongering and plain stubbornness associated with this project. I would like more meetings with the organizations involved in developing the

SCMaglev project so we can gain more factual information to enable us to make better decisions.

Joyce Wineland

Amtrak's Concern

This is a response to the letter Maglev Safety, Noise written by Robert Snyder and published in last week's Greenbelt News Review.

According to Snyder, Greenbelt Advocates incorrectly claimed that the SCMaglev will compete for financial resources needed for upgrading the Northeast Corridor (NEC). Actually, in their December 21 letter, Greenbelt Advocates refer to the investment underway for the corridor between Baltimore and Washington, D.C. – not the NEC as stated by Snyder.

On January 31, 2017, Amtrak's director of business development sent a letter to the Maryland Department of Transportation expressing Amtrak's concern that "over the next five to 10 years, the cost to complete upgrades between Baltimore and Washington, D.C., will require a substantial financial commitment from the federal government, Amtrak and others, commitments that have the potential to be in direct competition with the plans for maglev."

We need to complete upgrades to our current transportation infrastructure before spending money on the proposed SCMaglev project, which does not benefit the impacted communities, and could

change the character of our community and harm our wildlife habitat.

Susan Smithers

Thanks

Thanks to all who helped with our 2017 Shop with a Cop program. Because of generous donations from the community, 25 children chosen from Springhill Lake Elementary were able to enjoy a memorable holiday. The children were taken to Target and each given a \$200 gift card with which to shop. The children then went to the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department where they enjoyed Three Brothers Pizza while they wrapped their presents. A special thanks to Target and their staff, Three Brothers Pizza, the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department, Mission BBQ, Franklin Park Apartments, The Platinum Rollers Motorcycle Club, the staff at Springhill Lake Elementary School and the two anonymous citizens who approached us as we shopped and provided monetary donations. Without the support of the community and the assistance of the many volunteers, none of this would have been possible.

Scott Kaiser
Treasurer

Greenbelt Fraternal Order of
Police Lodge #32





Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410
Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor



Worship Service 10 a.m.
I will let you find me



Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
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Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org




Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

January 7 10 a.m.
"Our Promise of Community"

Rev. Rachel Christensen, Minister; with Samantha Evans, Worship Associate; and Carla Miller, DMRE

The way our world is speaking to each other is sure to deliver hurts and misunderstandings. How will we practice healthier ways to be in community?



ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322

Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe



GREENBELT
BAPTIST CHURCH

Come worship God with us!
Sunday School 9:45AM
Worship Service 11:00AM

101 Greenhill Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
(301) 474-4212 www.greenbeltbaptist.org

Mishkan Torah Offers Betty Ladas Concert

Mishkan Torah Synagogue is proud to announce that Greenbelt songwriter-musician Betty Ladas will ring in the new year by presenting a concert of her original songs at the synagogue on Saturday, January 13 at 7:30 p.m. The concert will be free, and the general public is invited. Donations will be accepted.

Ladas resides in Greenbelt where she has been an active song writer and performer. She is the author and composer of Choking Out the Kuzdu, an original musical performed in April 2015 at the Greenbelt Arts Center. She has written original compositions for numerous corporate presentations, commercials and productions. She refuses to characterize the kind of music which she writes. She prefers to describe her eclectic style as "North of Country South of Blues."

Ladas states that she sees things as they are and puts it all to music.

She is at home on the guitar as well as the piano and says she only wishes she had more hands so she could simultaneously play the harmonica. Ladas draws some of her best material from everyday life, such as Remember which sets forth the poignant reminiscences of a mother attending the wedding of her beloved daughter. In another song distilled from everyday life experience, Beauty Queen, a woman looks in the mirror, realizes she is getting no younger then has the rejuvenating experience of her significant other dancing with her in the kitchen, thus realizing that, as she ages, his love for her only increases.

Ladas loves her audience and they seem to love her right back. When her music doesn't draw a laugh, it illuminates the other side of a coin and sometimes breaks a heart, but keeps everybody entertained. Plan to attend this special performance by this extraordinary Greenbelt artist.



A big thank you goes out to Eleanor Roosevelt High School's choir from the organizers of the December 3 Greenbelt East Tree Lighting. The ERHS singers agreed to step in at the last minute when the choir initially invited to sing had to cancel. The high schoolers performed holiday classics and the event was enjoyable to all who attended.

Please share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



Snow Days May Shorten Spring Break

Starting in 2018, snow days will no longer lengthen the school year, but rather will shorten spring break or eliminate a teacher training day. The change is due to an executive order signed by Governor Larry Hogan, requiring that Maryland's public schools begin after Labor Day, complete the 180 days as required under state law, then adjourn by June 15.

Two inclement weather make-up days are built into the school calendar. If one day is used, the last day for students will be June 14 and the last day for teachers will be June 19. If no days are used, the last day for students will be June 13 and the last day for teachers will be June 18. If schools are closed due to inclement weather for three or more days, the following non-school days may be used as make-up days: February 9 (now scheduled for teacher training) and April 5 and April 6 (now scheduled for spring break).



Abiding Presence Lutheran Church
10774 Rhode Island Avenue
301-937-7646

Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.
Rev. Jongkil Na
www.APLChurch.org
Come and Join Us
Located in the Beltsville Professional Center



Greenbelt Community Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1 Hillside (at Crescent Road)
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.
Rev. Glennyce Grindstaff, Pastor



Catholic Community of Greenbelt
MASS

Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building
ALL ARE WELCOME.



Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky Cantor Phil Greenfield

Friday evening services 8:00 PM, except first Friday of the month, when children's service begins at 7:00 PM

Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM.
Children's Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.

For further information call 301 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Conservative and Reconstructionist

City Notes

Animal Control staff reports one stray dog was picked up, one injured bird was impounded, three cats and one dog were adopted, one squirrel was removed from a resident's home and one cat was surrendered by its owner.

Refuse/Recycling/Sustainability crews collected 27.26 tons of refuse and 15.21 tons of recyclable material.

The Community Center gym floor resurfacing continues. The completion has been delayed. It is anticipated to reopen the week-end of January 6.

Library Events

Senior Computer Club

Monday, January 8, 1:30 p.m.
Learn the basics of using a computer and practice using a mouse. No computer experience required. Space limited.

English Conversation Club

Tuesday, January 9, 6 p.m.
Learning to speak English? Join our club and practice speaking English in a friendly atmosphere with people from diverse backgrounds.

Kids Achieve Club

Tuesday, January 9, 6 p.m.
Homework help and reading practice for students in grades K through 6.

Storytimes

Tuesday, January 9, 7 p.m.
Ready 2 Read Storytime. Ages 3 to 5, limit 20 people.

Wednesday, January 10, 10:15 a.m. Ready 2 Read Storytime. Ages 3 to 5, limit 20 people; ages 2 to 3, 11:15 a.m., limit 20 people.

Thursday, January 11, 10:15 and 11:15 a.m. Ready 2 Read Storytime. Ages newborn to 2, limit 15 babies with parent(s) or caregiver(s); ages 2 to 3, 4:15 p.m., limit 20 people.

Job Seekers Workshop

Wednesday, January 10, 1 p.m.
This program is designed to offer job seekers assistance with resume preparation, job searches, interview techniques, job market opportunities and employment electronic resources.

Bibliobop Dance Party

Saturday, January 20, 10:30 a.m., ages 2 to 5. Calling all Preschoolers and Toddlers.

Read to Rover

Saturday, January 20, 2 p.m.
Read to Rover is for children age 6 to 11 and helps them build reading confidence while reading aloud to specially trained therapy dogs.

M-NCPPC Seeks Nonagenarians

Do you know any Prince Georgians who are 90 years old or older? The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation (M-NCPPC) in Prince George's County is looking for county residents who are ages 90 or older to invite them to a special Centenarian Celebration to be held in May. Special recognition will be given to centenarians: residents who are 100 years old and older.

If you or someone you know resides in the county and is 90 years old or older as of January 1, 2018, please share the information with M-NCPPC no later than February 16. Call the Centenarian Coordinator at 301-206-3375; TTY 301-699-2544. Names provided will be mailed invitations to the event. RSVPs will be required. For additional details visit pgparks.com/2666/Signature-Events.



City Information

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL- REGULAR MEETING
Municipal Building, January 8, 2018 – 8:00 p.m.

ORGANIZATION

Call to Order
Roll Call
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
Consent Agenda – Approval of Staff Recommendations (Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by *] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)
Approval of Agenda and Additions

COMMUNICATIONS

- Presentations
- Petitions and Requests (Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)
- Minutes of Council Meeting
- Administrative Reports
* - Committee Reports

LEGISLATION

- A Resolution of the Council of the City of Greenbelt Adopted Pursuant to the authority of Article XI-E of the Constitution of Maryland and Title 4, Subtitle 3 of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, to Amend the Charter of the City of Greenbelt Found, in Whole or in Part, in the Compilation of Municipal Charters of Maryland (1983 Edition as Amended), as Prepared by the Department of Legislative Services Pursuant to Chapter 77 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland of 1983, by Amending Sections 12, 15, 16 and 20 to Change the Voting Age for City Elections to Those 16 Years Old and Older and to Clarify that Those Who Serve on the Employee Relations Board, Board of Elections and City Council must be at least 18 years old.
- 2nd Reading & Adoption

OTHER BUSINESS

- Confirmation of City Solicitor
- Modifications to Police Non-Emergency Line
- Acceptance of Stream Valley Trail (Greenbelt West)
- Appointment of Council Members to City Boards and Committees
- Appointment of Council Members to Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Boards and Committees
- Council Activities
- Council Reports

NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public, and all interested citizens are invited to attend. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 no later than 10am on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 or e-mail banderson@greenbeltmd.gov to reach the City Clerk.

Greenbelt CARES Youth and Family Services Bureau
FREE BABYSITTING COURSE
SATURDAY, JANUARY 6 from 1- 4p.m.
Springhill Lake Recreation Center Clubhouse
6101 Cherrywood Lane

This course is targeted towards students in grades 5-8 (10-13 years of age). Students will learn responsibilities and safety regarding babysitting and handling emergency situations. Students will receive a packet of information, a certificate of completion and will be able to enroll in Greenbelt CARES Odd Jobs/Job bank. Please bring a pencil or pen.

For additional information and enrollment
Judy Hering, jhering@greenbeltmd.gov or 301-345-6660.

**GREENBELT RECREATION ON-LINE
REGISTRATION WILL BE DOWN FOR ABOUT A
WEEK BEGINNING ON
SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2018**

In order to better serve our community the Greenbelt Recreation Department is implementing a significant upgrade to class registration and facility reservation software. Due to this maintenance:

- Online registration will not be available beginning Saturday, January 6
- Walk-in registrations can be made at any Recreation Department facility
- No credit cards can be processed during this time

The system upgrade is expect to take about a week. Our staff will be working to make the upgrade as quickly as possible. Updates on our progress will be provided on the City website, Facebook and Twitter once the work is completed.

If you have any concerns or questions please call: **Youth Center:** 301-397-2200 or email cprecht@greenbeltmd.gov.

Community Center: 301-397-2208 or email rcampbell@greenbeltmd.gov

Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center: 301-397-2204 or email snoaman@greenbeltmd.gov

We apologize for the inconvenience.

Follow @cityofgreenbelt on Facebook!

MEETINGS FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 8-12

Monday, January 8 at 5:30pm, **YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE** at Greenbriar Community Center, 7600 Hanover Parkway.

Monday, January 8 at 8pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING** at Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. *This meeting will be shown live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 995 and streaming on www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv*

Wednesday, January 10 at 7:30pm, **ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD** at Community Center Community Center 15 Crescent Road. *On the agenda: Multifamily Housing Development Proposal Concept – Capital Office Park, Intersection of Cherrywood Lane and Ivy Lane*

Wednesday, January 10 at 8:00pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION w/Roosevelt Center Merchants Association** at Community Center Community Center 15 Crescent Road.

The schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.

**MEET AND GREET WITH CITY MANAGER,
NICOLE ARD TO DISCUSS GREENBELT'S
NEXT CHIEF OF POLICE**

Wednesday, January 10 from 12:30-1pm
Greenbelt Community Center
15 Crescent Road, Multi-Purpose Room

All are invited to drop in to the Greenbelt Community Center and discuss with City Manager, Nicole Ard, what qualities they would like to see in the next City of Greenbelt Chief of Police.

ON-LINE SURVEY IS AVAILABLE AT
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9KKY7VW>

Christmas Tree Collection

Your discarded Christmas tree can be recycled. The Public Works Department will pick up trees at the locations listed below and process them through the wood chipper. The chips will be used as mulch around trees and flower beds. Please bring trees to any of the locations listed at <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/index.aspx?nid=361> up until February 2, 2018.

**RECOGNITION GROUP APPLICATIONS FOR
FY 2019**

City of Greenbelt's Recognition Group applications for Basic, Project and Operating grants are available on the city's website www.greenbeltmd.gov. Please read the Recognition Group Policy and Information Guide before filling out the application. The deadline to submit an application is 4:30pm on Friday, February 23. Please read the Recognition Group Policy and Information Guide before filling out the application. Applications must be complete. For more information contact 301-397-2200 or email cpacht@greenbeltmd.gov.



**COFFEE with the
CHIEF**
Tuesday, January 9 5:30-7:00pm
New Deal Cafe

Come out and meet Greenbelt Interim Chief of Police Tom Kemp and members of the Police Department in a casual, cordial and informative environment. Have a cup of coffee or tea and engage in positive, productive discussions where concerns can be shared and question can be answered.

We look forward to spending some time with you!

**VACANCIES ON BOARDS &
COMMITTEES**

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups.
There are currently vacancies on: Advisory Committee on Education, Advisory Planning Board, Arts Advisory Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board and Youth Advisory Committee.
For information on how to apply call 301-474-8000.



**GREENBELT ART
SHARE**

Friday, January 5 at 7pm
Greenbelt Community Center
15 Crescent Road, Room 113

Local artists are invited to participate in a free Art Share, a new program of the Greenbelt Recreation Department Arts Program. Artists working in all media can meet up for a constructive, informal discussion of everyone's work,. For additional information, contact Amanda Demos Larsen at alarsen@greenbeltmd.gov

Maglev Property Acquisition And Alternative Proposals

by James Giese

This is the third in a series of articles providing information about a proposal to build a high-speed railway through Greenbelt that would tunnel under existing homes and other properties in Greenbelt East and possibly emerge from its tunnel in the city's forest preserve. The first article described the proposed alternate routes to be considered in a now underway federally funded environmental impact study (EIS), while the second provided history of the development of the SC-Maglev (superconducting magnetic levitation) rail system proposed by private developers to possibly eventually run from Charlotte to Boston. This article will discuss property acquisition, issues raised and alternative high-speed transportation proposals.

Right of Way Acquisition

What right do these people have to build a SCMaglev railroad over or under my property? Maybe they do, maybe they don't have such a right. Naturally, homeowners and other owners along the possible routes are very much concerned to learn that a tunnel will be dug under their property or an elevated line run near them.

How can the railway developers get the needed rights-of-ways if property owners object? This is a good question to which there is not yet a good answer.

In a letter to Bowie Mayor Frederick Robinson on September 5, Maryland Secretary of Transportation Peter K. Rahn wrote, "It has always been the understanding of the Hogan administration that this proposed project would only use existing rights-of-ways intended for these types of purposes and have minimal impact on those who live and work along the final route should the project come to fruition. The Hogan administration's position in regards to using existing rights-of-way for this project has not and will not change."

Since a cursory understanding of the design requirements for this kind of rapid rail makes clear that it is impossible to follow existing rights-of-ways and/or government controlled property because the high-speed trains can't do the curves required, the question comes to mind why the state sought to undertake a \$27.8 million study in the first place.

Easements

A November 9, 2017 Baltimore Sun story by Libby Solomon, titled "Northeast M line could tunnel under Landsdowne, Baltimore Highlands," reports that, "Neighborhoods could experience some construction noise or vibrations, David Henley, Baltimore Washington Rapid Rail (BWRR) project director said, but he said the train itself would not create vibrations because it has no moving parts."

"People won't know it's there," he said, according to the article. The company, Henley said, will work with property owners to get easement rights in areas where the land is not government-owned, and could get what he called "fair and reasonable remuneration."

Not mentioned is that the company had become franchised as a railroad by the Maryland

Public Service Commission and, as such, has obtained the power of eminent domain according to the commission staff (see the previous article in this series). That power enables it to legally obtain property rights without owner consent. In such a taking, the court determines the fair compensation for damages to the property resulting from the action if the owner and company fail to reach agreement. So, if Henley's statement is correct that, "People won't know it's there," what are the damages to be paid?

A further complication is that underground property rights are not clearly determined. Once property was thought to include the space above the property, but along came the airplane. Now it is generally believed that an owner's right extends to maybe 500 feet above the property, but here come the drones.

Similarly, an owner is thought to possess his property to the center of the earth, but this is being challenged with modern technology for drilling at angles for oil and undertaking fracking activities, as well as other forms of mining. Is it possible for the courts to declare a limit to an owner's underground rights?

It has been reported that both the City of Baltimore and Anne Arundel County have also franchised BWRR. But at least in the case of the city, all rights-of-ways must be approved by the city. What if it does not approve? How will this relate to other political jurisdictions or federal agencies that might be impacted?

It could take a lot of litigation to resolve these property issues and litigation takes time. For the developers, time delays can be very costly.

Feasibility

The total cost for the EIS and preliminary engineering is budgeted at \$34,749,000. Of that, the federal government is putting up 80 percent or \$27.8 million. According to the draft 2018-2023 Consolidated Transportation Plan of the Maryland Department of Transportation, the remainder of funds is to come from BWRR. However, the Japanese government has pledged \$2 million for the project. Unless BWRR can tap other funding sources, the remaining almost \$5 million will presumably come from private investment in BWRR.

The total estimated cost for building the line is \$10 billion. An October 18 story by Martin Di Caro aired on WAMU reported that the Japan Bank for International Cooperation, an export credit agency, has discussed lending the company as much as half of the final construction cost. Project manager David Henley was quoted as saying the initial assumptions were that half the route would be in tunnels, but now it appears tunnels will be needed for close to 70 percent. Henley also told the reporter that if the cost significantly exceeded the preliminary cost estimate of \$10 billion, the project "might be too expensive to pursue" and "federal loans and private financing would be necessary to complement any Japanese loan."

To date, there has been no successful commercial venture. Only the Chinese maglev charges a fare and its ridership is reported to be at only 20 percent capacity (see previous story).

BWRR has proffered two charts concerning projected ridership in 2030, 13 years into the future at a time of rapid technology advances with more people working out of homes and more conferences being done with video phones. The proponents estimate over seven million riders a year using the Washington terminus, less than four million at the airport and more than four million at Baltimore. Of that, 61 percent are expected to be non-business riders, 20 percent commuters and the remainder business travelers.

No information appears to be available as to the number of riders required to make the line profitable, nor is there information regarding operating costs or fare rates, other than to say they would be more expensive than other fares.

The federal government does subsidize most other forms of transportation in this country including highways, railroads, airlines and Metro. It has already provided funding for the EIS study. But times and administrations change and future government funding is uncertain.

Noise

BWRR represents that the new line, in tunnels 90 feet below the ground surface, will be noiseless

See **MAGLEV**, page 7

A Review

GATe 's Greenbelt Talks Focuses on Maglev Issue

by Jim Link



PHOTO COURTESY OF GATE

The recent SCMaglev discussion on GATe's new show, Greenbelt Talks, featured from left, Brian Almquist, Susan Barnett, Dave Zahren (host), Dr. Laura Kressler and Rachel Cain.

In the midst of the incessant drumbeat of fake news and constant attacks on the press, it's a pleasure to see real news conveyed rationally and articulately by four informed, passionate citizens.

I'm referring to GATe's (Greenbelt Access Television's) 27-minute round-table discussion of the possible woeful impact of funding the high speed (300 mph) maglev (magnetic levitation) train from Washington, D.C., to Baltimore. Go to Youtube, then search for Greenbelt Talks to get your consciousness considerably raised.

Hosted by Dave Zahren, former ABC Channel 7 weatherman and current host of It's Academic in Baltimore, and produced by GATe's Andy Zmidzinski, this symposium features several concerned Maryland residents including Dr. Laura Kressler, a doctor of veterinary medicine who has lived in Greenbelt for 50 years.

Kressler states that maglev "does not stop in P.G. County. You will not be able to get on this train or get off it."

Rachel Cain, a reporter for the Prince George's Sentinel, is covering the political aspect of maglev funding, including issues like eminent domain. Can your house be taken from you?

Brian Almquist is an engineer and civic activist who has lived in Greenbelt for 30 years. He looks at the big picture and is exploring the "environmental, social

and cultural impact" of maglev's presence.

Susan Barnett is an environmental activist who has lived in Greenbelt since 1980. She warns us that maglev "will affect the Goddard Branch of the Beaver Dam Creek Watershed and we will lose some of our oldest trees from the forest preserve."

GATe expects that this Greenbelt Talks will be the first of many.



PHOTO BY JUDY MCCORD

Magnolia flower encased in ice

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The Greenbelt News Review at 80

January 14, 1pm

Tickets \$7

Old Greenbelt Theatre
129 Centerway

See the film commissioned by the **Greenbelt News Review!** Q&A with filmmaker **Susan Gervasi** to follow the screening.



MAGLEV continued from page 6

and vibrationless. However, a High-Speed Ground Transportation Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment prepared for the Federal Railway Administration in September 2012 by the consulting firm Harris Miller Miller & Hanson, Inc. found that maglevs do make noise and cause vibration. That study did not relate to the SCMaglev, particularly as now proposed. It further noted a variety of different sources of noise – from the engine, the ventilation system, the magnetic forces and air disturbance. The study also notes that various design modifications and sound deflecting and absorbing measures can also reduce noise level. The study did find that the amount of noise does increase as the rate of speed increases, but did not measure speeds in excess of 300 mph. In general, the study found maglev noise to be less than that emanating from highways, railroads or airplanes. One chart in the report indicated a lower noise level for maglevs than that generated by a highway of automobiles, such as the Baltimore-Washington Parkway.

The study also indicated that maglevs would generate ground vibrations, but did not determine the effect upon surface structures of a maglev in a tunnel 90-feet down.

Akiko Fujita in his April 19 CNBC story about the Japanese train reported, “On board, the SCMaglev looks and feels like any other high-speed rail. That is, until the train starts to reach speeds of 310 mph. The floor starts to vibrate. The cabin sways slightly. By the time the wheels retract, lifting the train off the tracks, it feels like a plane taking off.”

There are YouTube amateur videos that take you for a ride on the Shanghai Maglev train and clearly record noise, although the intensity is difficult to determine. Outside videos record both a distinct engine sound and a whooshing sound and these are at the station. Inside is a hum that becomes louder as train speed increases. When the train passes another going the opposite directions, two popping sounds can be heard inside a train in one recording.

Noise and vibration effects upon adjacent underground or surface property are certainly issues that an EIS should carefully consider and property holders near the proposed right-of-way will be interested in the conclu-

sions.

Safety

Proponents claim maglev to be the safest transportation system. They note its sophisticated computer control enables it to be operated without track signalization, the trains always being monitored by a computer system that has two points of contact at one time. Also, the system will be little affected by weather, particularly snow and ice, since it is driven and stopped by the magnetic drive, although none have operated under weather conditions comparable to the Northeast region.

Wikipedia reports two safety incidents involving the Transrapid maglev system. In Germany, a test train crashed into a maintenance vehicle at 106 mph, killing 23. In China, a train caught on fire but it was quickly extinguished. The fire was believed to have been caused by batteries. That train was not in a tunnel.

Maglev train cars are lighter in weight, reducing manufacturing costs, but possibly also reducing protection in a crash. Computers can malfunction or be hacked. Unstable ground, including earthquake tremors, could result in tunnel and track damage. The tunnels proposed, which are much smaller in circumference than Metrorail tunnels, may create added challenges to rescue efforts and may induce a greater amount of claustrophobia among patrons and workers. The Metrorail system has experienced myriad maintenance and safety issues as it has aged. Might not the same be true for an SCMaglev line?

On the other hand, planes, trains and buses all crash with loss of life and people in general accept some risk of safety, and without an extensive amount of experience there appears to be nothing to indicate a maglev system would be less safe.

Competition

SCMaglev is not the only proposal floating about for high-speed rail service in the Northeast corridor. One proposal has drawn little public attention so far, but could also affect Greenbelt.

It is Elon Musk’s (of Tesla car fame) effort to bring Hyperloop vactrain service to the area with train speeds of over 600 mph enabling users to go from Washington to New York in 30 minutes – with the route following the Baltimore-Washington Parkway. Musk’s version of the vactrain concept, first publicly mentioned in 2012, incorporates reduced-

pressure tubes in which pressurized capsules ride on air bearings driven by linear induction motors and air compressors, according to the Wikipedia Hyperloop article. (Remember the vacuum tubes used at bank drive-in windows to transport money from cars to tellers?)

Because the train is traveling in low air pressure, it can achieve much higher rates of speed. The technology requires train passenger compartments to be pressurized.

It appears that Governor Hogan is equally supportive of this proposal which has not so far sought government funding. Maryland has granted Tesla’s Boring Company the right to tunnel under the Maryland-maintained portion of the Parkway, using the same process followed for installing a sewer line. While there may be some minor digging effort, every indication is that this proposal is far from being ready for undertaking. Also, the even higher speed proposed for the Hyperloop requires even straighter rights-of-way.

Acela Express

The fastest train currently operating in the United States is Amtrak’s Acela Express running from Washington to New York City. According to the Wikipedia article, High Speed Rail in the United States, it is classified as a higher-speed rail service, because

it does not achieve speeds above 150 mph. Its travel time between the two cities is two hours and 53 minutes. With a top speed of 150 mph, the train’s average speed is 79 mph. (Surprisingly, the old Pennsylvania Railroad Metroliner in 1969 did the same route in two hours and 30 minutes.)

Amtrak announced in August 2016 a new modernization program for the Acela Express to include service to Boston as well. According to a December 7, 2016 Business Insider article by Danielle Muoio, “Amtrak will start using high-speed trains in 2021, but your travel time will remain the same.” Amtrak will provide 28 new high-speed trains as part of a \$2.45 billion federal investment, which will be used to manufacture the trains, revitalize train stations, and make track improvements.

From a technical standpoint, Amtrak’s new Acela Express high-speed trains will be better than the current ones, which can only operate up to 150 mph. Amtrak is contracting with Alstom – the creator of France’s high-speed rail, the TGV – to create trains that will operate at 160 mph, but can reach speeds of 186 mph, Muoio reports.

“Our trip times will be around the same,” Mark Yachmetz, senior vice president for Amtrak’s fleet and rail initiatives, told Muoio.

“It will save a few minutes and a few minutes are very valuable to us from a commercial standpoint.”

When asked whether any aspects of the \$2.45 billion project will help decrease the number of delays, the story quotes Stephen Gardner, Amtrak’s executive vice president for business development along the Northeast corridor, “No, fundamentally the infrastructure improvements we are making will enhance the ride quality of the trip and permit a little more capacity in certain choke points,” the problem being that the curvature and alignment of tracks are not capable of handling higher speeds.

Amtrak announced in an August 2016 blog that, “The new trainsets will be at least eight times more reliable than the equipment it replaces . . . and . . . reduce operating energy consumption by at least 20 percent through a combination of minimal aerodynamic drag and lightweight design.”

Training Session

The Center for Dynamic Community Governance will be holding a training session for Old Greenbelt Theatre volunteers, Saturday, January 6, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Community Center.



Rainbow over Greenbelt

PHOTO BY DINAH COHEN

JGLLAW

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BIRD COUNT continued from page 1



PHOTO BY JOHN STITH

Birdcounters from Greenbelt and Bowie recover from a chilly count.

because I was so excited for the count. So I walked up the road to Northway Fields and was rewarded with a pair of barred owls flying over my head.”

According to Stith, for every one species that flourishes, 10 are in decline. A success story is the bald eagle. In 1972, there were none seen in Greenbelt while this year dozens were observed throughout the entire circle, six

in Greenbelt alone. Much of that success is due to the banning of DDT.

While he sees “a bleak future,” Stith said he hopes that “we can save what we can.” All totaled in Greenbelt this year, 4,345 birds were observed, representing 48 species.



Local TerraCycle Campaigns

by Luisa Robles

The City of Greenbelt is participating in six TerraCycle campaigns. There now are six bins inside the Public Works (PW) building. Once proper signs are obtained, the bins will be located at the outdoor recycling center at 555 Crescent Road, and will be accessible 24/7. For now, bring materials to the PW building Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

What is TerraCycle?

TerraCycle is a private U.S. small business headquartered in Trenton, N.J. It takes non-recyclable pre-consumer and post-consumer waste and turns it into raw material to be used in new products.

The city is participating in six campaigns or brigades. For information on the following, see terracycle.com/en-US/brigades.

1 - Brita Brigade

Program accepted waste: Brita(r) dispensers, Brita(r) Bottles, Brita(r) Bottle Filters, Brita(r) Standard Filters, Brita(r) Stream Filters, Brita(r) Longlast Filters, Brita(r) filter packaging, Brita(r) faucet filtration systems and Brita(r) pitchers

2 - PUR Brigade

Program accepted waste: PUR(r) pitchers, all types of PUR(r) filters, PUR(r) faucet mounts and adapters, PUR(r) packaging film and PUR(r) dispensers

3 - Cliff Bar

Program accepted waste: Foil-lined energy bar wrappers; foil-lined granola bar wrappers; foil-lined meal replacement bar wrappers; foil-lined protein bar wrappers; foil-lined diet bar wrappers; Clif Bar & Co. wrappers from Clif Bars, Luna Bars, MOJO, Builders, Crunch, Clif Kid Z-Bar, Kits Organic, Clif Kid Z-Fruit, Shot Bloks, Shot Gels and Shot Drinks; pouches from Clif Organic Energy Food

4 - GoGo Squeeze

Program accepted waste: Healthy snack plastic pouches and caps

5 - Snack Bags

Program accepted waste: Family-size snack bags, individual

snack bags and multipack snack bags

6 - Oral Recycling

Program accepted waste: Toothpaste tubes and caps, toothbrushes, toothpaste cartons, toothbrush outer packaging and floss containers.

Please note: Electric toothbrushes, battery toothbrushes and/or their parts are not recyclable through the program.

Meet Birds of Prey At Patuxent Event

On Saturday, January 6 from 1 to 2 p.m., meet two of North America’s smallest birds of prey: the American kestrel and eastern screech owl. Both expert hunters, the American kestrel uses its acrobatic prowess, while the eastern screech owl is a stealthy silent hunter. This free event is held at the National Wildlife Visitor Center in Laurel, located on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Route 197. All ages are welcome; no registration is required. For more information call 301-497-5887 or go to fws.gov/refuge/Patuxent/.

ZONING continued from page 1

a Neighborhood Conservation Overlay (NCO) Zone would be adopted for historic Greenbelt and other interested municipalities as part of the new zoning ordinance. Instead, the county decided that while the NCO Zones would be established as a category with adoption of the ordinance, the specifics of any jurisdiction’s zone would not be developed and acted upon until after the adoption of the ordinance, leaving historic Greenbelt unprotected for up to two years.

Hruby said staff recommended that the city continue to request that an NCO Zone for Greenbelt be included in the legislative draft but, short of that, request that the existing RPC Zone be kept in effect in the new ordinance until an NCO Zone can be accepted, thus maintaining the status quo during the interim.

A further suggestion was that the RPC zoning be retained as a Legacy Zone and be referred to as a Legacy Residential Planned Community Zone. According to Hruby, the county is accepting Legacy Zones in other situations and should be willing to consider this solution as a bridge between the elimination of the RPC Zone and establishment of the NCO Zone as well.

Earlier in the meeting, Councilmember Edward Putens said that while it was helpful to know about the availability of an appeal process after the fact, some people feel as he does that affected municipalities should consider going to court for an injunction to stop the process if there is not an NCO Zone or comparable protection in place by the time the rezoning takes effect. Putens said he is concerned about protecting GHI during the interim.

“It’s just that important,” Putens said, referring to the need to protect GHI and the rest of historic Greenbelt.

Mayor Emmett Jordan continued to comment on the lack of an agreed-upon solution about how to bridge the time during which there would be no protective zone. Councilmember Judith Davis added that there must be something put in place—if not a Legacy RPC, then some kind of guarantee that the city would be held harmless for issues over that time period.

Although the city council had considered this issue one of potentially broad concerns to municipalities, Williams said that at that point in time the only mu-

nicipalities asking about the NOC Zone were Greenbelt and Mount Rainier, though Hruby added that she knew Bowie had an interest as well.

Hruby stressed to everyone the importance of remembering two things about the RPC Zone under which GHI and historic Greenbelt have functioned for so long: First, that the RPC Zone controlled density but did nothing to address any other aspects of the uniqueness of original Greenbelt that the city might wish to preserve; and second, that regardless of what replaces it, even just a memo, there is a need to formalize how development applications will be reviewed and approved so that everyone understands how the process will continue in the future. Right now, she said, it is ill-defined. For example: because GHI has no defined lots, a regulation about lots in the underlying zone would be an unexpected issue.

Comments on Draft

Hruby noted that a great many of the city’s comments had either been directly addressed in the Comprehensive Review Draft or had been resolved by clarifications provided to the city by county staff. Nonetheless, a number of issues remained, that city staff still wished to see addressed before the draft became final, only some of which are described below.

Municipal Authority:

The city council’s strong concern with the lack of project review authority for municipalities in the streamlined process established by the rewrite dates back to the first reading of information at the start of the project. In particular, council wanted municipalities to be listed in the Table of Development Review Responsibilities. According to Hruby, while the category of municipalities had been added, their role still needs to be spelled out more explicitly in the legislation. Since there is a 30-day public notification period for most applications, it is essential for Greenbelt to be notified early in the process to allow time for adequate review and comment by the deadline.

Level of Review:

Noting that the effort to streamline the application and development process has a negative impact on the ability to provide for adequate notice and review, Hruby said that while thresholds had, as requested, been substantially lowered for

defining minor and major projects, the threshold is still considerably too high for mixed use and commercial development to allow meaningful review by the city or the public. The city will also ask that requirements for pre-application neighborhood meetings be expanded to include minor site plans, comparable to the requirements for zoning map amendments, special exceptions and major detailed site plans.

Adequate Public Facilities:

In the area of Adequate Public Facilities Standards, Hruby noted that while the city appreciates that the requirements for schools, police, fire and EMS facilities have been put back in, there is still a problem with Police Facility Adequacy in the subdivision regulations in that they still do not take into account or reference municipal police service.

Text Amendments:

Another area of concern was the reversal of changes the city had supported in the earlier draft of Module 3 related to Zoning Text Amendments, the proliferation of which were one reason for rewriting the zoning amendment. In the earlier draft, text amendments would have been reviewed by the County Planning Board, including a public hearing. In the Comprehensive Draft, that requirement was eliminated and the amendments would be reviewed and decided only by the county council sitting as the District Council. From Greenbelt’s perspective, that is a move in the wrong direction.

In closing, city councilmembers expressed their thanks to Williams for all his work and assistance on this project.

Chorale Seeks Singers

The Central Maryland Chorale is looking for singers to join them as they prepare for the Spring season. Beginning January 8, rehearsals are held every Monday evening from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Laurel Presbyterian Church, 7610 Old Sandy Spring Road, in Laurel.

The Chorale is open to enthusiastic singers who can follow music from a score; no audition is required. In March, the Chorale will be doing a tribute to Leonard Bernstein, including a suite from West Side Story. The May Concert will include the Faure Requiem and Aaron Copland’s Old American Songs.

For more information call or visit website.

Stop the SCMAGLEV Train Public Information Day

Saturday January 20, 2018, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Greenbelt Fire Station at 125 Crescent Road

Baltimore Washington Rapid Rail (BWRR) Inc. has proposed the construction and operation of a high-speed superconducting magnetic levitation (SCMAGLEV) train system between Baltimore and Washington D.C. There are no stops in our County.

The three routes proposed will impact Bowie, Laurel, and Greenbelt. We oppose the entire project. Trees, wildlife habitat, green space, and property values are at risk.

Come learn how the train could impact your community.

Contact Brian or Donna Almquist for information at: GreenbeltAdvocates.ESJ@gmail.com

Paid for by Greenbelt Advocates for Environmental and Social Justice

Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, www.greenbeltmd.gov/police
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Assault
December 25, 1:10 a.m., 5700 block Greenbelt Metro Drive. A 66-year-old man with no fixed address was arrested and charged with two counts of second degree assault after he punched an officer who responded to a report of a disorderly person at the Greenbelt Metro station. The man also kicked a second officer. He was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

Arson
December 22, 10:13 a.m., 6200 block Springhill Court. A small fire was set in the bathtub of a vacant apartment and was extinguished. A witness observed several juveniles running from the area, one carrying a fire extinguisher.

DWI/DUI
December 19, 1:15 p.m., 7 Court Research Road. A 59-year-old resident was arrested and charged with driving while impaired by alcohol and other traffic-related violations during investigation of a traffic accident. She was released on citations pending trial.

December 24, 1:12 a.m., 500 block Crescent Road. A 30-year-old resident was arrested and charged with driving while impaired by alcohol and other traffic-related violations during investigation of a traffic accident. She was released on citations pending trial.

Theft
December 22, 3:25 p.m., 6000 block Greenbelt Road. An unattended purse was taken at Fallas department store.

December 22, 5 p.m., Miner Street near South Center Street. Building materials were taken from a construction site.

December 23, 9:04 a.m., 7800 block Hanover Parkway. A woman dropped her wallet in a building hallway as she was taking out the trash. She then observed a man pick it up and flee on foot.

Trespass
December 26, 8:09 p.m., 6000 block Springhill Drive. A 22-year-old nonresident was arrested and charged with trespass by officers who responded to a report of trouble. A woman had been told to leave the residence by the person who called in the complaint but she later returned. She was arrested and then released on citation pending trial.

Burglary
December 25, 7:06 p.m., 9100 block Springhill Lane. A video game player was taken after a

residence was entered after breaking out a bedroom window.

Vandalism
December 21, 9 p.m., 5900 block Hanover Parkway. Graffiti was sprayed on city property at Schrom Hills Park.

December 24, 1:02 a.m., 5700 block Cherrywood Lane. A cashier at Shell Food Mart reported that a man kicked the front door of the store, breaking the frame. He then fled on foot.

Vehicle Crime
Two vehicles were stolen. A blue 4-door 2009 Lexus with Md. tags 5BK8024 was taken from the 7400 block Greenway Center Drive on December 20. A grey 2015 Ford Focus hatchback was taken from the 7600 block Mandan Road on December 21.

Six thefts from vehicles were reported. Five of them involved the breaking of windows to get to the items inside. A suitcase was taken from the 100 block Westway, a cell phone charger from one vehicle in the 6100 block Breezewood Drive and movie tickets, hand tools and gift cards from another on the same street.

Driver side air bags were taken in the 7800 and 7500 blocks Mandan Road and in addition, a camera from the latter site.

Four tires and rims were taken from the same vehicle in the 7500 block Mandan Road.

Three acts of vandalism were reported. In the 6000 block Springhill Drive two tires on the same vehicle were slashed. A tire was also slashed in the 400 block Ridge Road. A brick was used to break out a rear passenger side window in the 800 block Greenbury Drive.

Police Check Safety Of Outdoor Resident

The police report that many people have expressed concern for a woman who has recently been spending time on a bench near the Community Center. Due to the extremely cold weather and Greenbelters' inquiries about her safety, Greenbelt Police are, and have been, regularly checking on her well-being, said George Mathews, public information liaison. He reports that she walks or finds warm places to shelter, especially at night, and that a community resident gives her access to a shower. Patrol officers checked three times on New Year's Day to confirm her safety, Mathews said.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter.

Call 1-866-411-TIPS.

People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 240-542-2145.

Trees and Tots Program at Patuxent
On Tuesday, January 9 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 2 to 3 p.m. a program about trees will be held for children ages 3 to 4. Registration is required. For more information and to register call 301-497-5887 or go to Patuxent website.

Free Babysitting Class At Springhill Lake
The course will run Saturday, January 6 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Springhill Lake Recreation Center. The course is for ages 10 to 13. They will receive a certificate of completion and an opportunity to enroll in Greenbelt CARES Odd Jobs/Job bank.

EDITOR continued from page 1

tant institutions and how they help determine what sort of city we live in. Hopefully, as a newspaper, we have influenced those decisions in good ways.

For my first 15 years, Al Skolnik, president of the board, provided guidance for the paper. He covered city council and GHI board meetings and other important stories and wrote editorials. His voice was authoritative, but quiet.

He was the one who understood the First Amendment issue when the paper was sued for libel. He went to the Washington Post seeking help. The Post asked their First Amendment attorneys, Royall, Keagle and Wells, to take the case, which they did pro bono. If you were able to attend our 80th anniversary gala, you know the results, a unanimous decision in our favor by the Supreme Court, and the importance of that decision over the past 47 years.

After Al's untimely death in 1977, his wife Elaine provided

the guidance and strength the paper needed, serving as president of the board. She focused on which news items the paper should cover, handed out assignments and wrote the important development stories herself. It was during those years, the 80s and 90s, that I probably loved the most covering city council and related stories, seeking ads, designing each paper and reading final page proofs at the old print shop in Hyattsville.

Failing health led Elaine to hand over her work for the paper to others just a few years ago. About the future, we have a strong new board and with luck, will soon have a new editor.

As for my future, I'm not going anywhere. I plan to continue with the newspaper and, in particular, be a help to the new editor.

Otherwise you can find me working in my garden or driving off to see my family.

Mary Lou Williamson

Second Chance at Defending Utopia – Sunday January 14

by Cathie Meetre

In November 2017 the movie Defending Utopia: The Greenbelt News Review at 80 opened to a sold-out audience. Movie-goers and local history buffs will be given a second chance to view the movie on January 14 at 1 p.m. in a program sponsored jointly by the Old Greenbelt Theatre and the Greenbelt Museum. After the movie, Susan Gervasi, who wrote and directed the documentary and who is herself a long-standing resident, will speak on the making of the movie and answer questions from the audience.

Defending Utopia, which lasts approximately an hour, illustrates how the life of the city intertwines with the paper – and how the paper has supported the Greenbelt culture and community through a number of challenges. It covers the First Amendment libel suit that led the paper to the U.S. Supreme Court and the many, and sometimes successful, challenges from developers.

The movie incorporates rare footage from a wide variety of sources and the audience in November was delighted with how the movie portrayed the city and its life. There are priceless interviews that will themselves become part of the town's history.

Museum Exhibit

Come and enjoy the Greenbelt Museum's current Community Center exhibit, The Knowing Hands that Carve This Stone: The New Deal Art of Lenore Thomas Straus. Straus is best known locally as the creator of the iconic Mother and Child statue in Roosevelt Center and the impressive bas reliefs on the façade of the Community Center. The Museum's historic house, located across the street at 10-B Crescent Road, will be open for tours on Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. There is a charge.

For more information about City of Greenbelt art programs, visit greenbeltmd.gov/arts and follow Greenbelt Recreation ARTS on Facebook.

Upcoming Events At Greenbelt Park

Weather advisory: programs could be moved or cancelled due to weather. Contact the Greenbelt Park Ranger Station for details for any of these programs.

Saturday, January 6: The Urban Forest Wildlife. Greenbelt Park is home to a wide variety of animals in the midst of this urban forest. This presentation will discuss the characteristics and needs of birds and small animals. Meet at the Ranger Station at 10 a.m.

Saturday, January 6: Outdoor Stewardship Volunteer Event. Join the Invasive Plant team to monitor and repel the growing threat of invasive plants. Learn valuable information that helps protect vulnerable species in our region. Meet at the Sweetgum Picnic Area at 11 a.m. Event lasts until 1 p.m.


Saturday, January 6: The Dirtiest Job in America: Charcoal Burning. Learn about the historic manufacture of charcoal, the household and industrial fuel of two centuries ago. Before a wood and charcoal fire, listen to a park ranger describe the work of colliers or charcoal burners, who had the dirtiest job of any. Meet at the Ranger Station at 1 p.m.

Saturday, January 13: Animals of Greenbelt. Join a park ranger to learn about park wildlife and their characteristics and why they call this special place their home. Appropriate for ages 5 to 12. Meet at the Ranger Station at 10 a.m.

Saturday, January 13: Night Sky in Winter. Marvel beneath a sky studded with bright stars gleaming in the winter evening. Bring binoculars and warm clothing for this amateur astronomy talk on the night sky of Greenbelt Park. Dress appropriately for weather. Meet at the Sweetgum Picnic Area at 5 p.m.

Sunday, January 14: Mission 66: The birth of the Greenbelt campground. Join a park ranger and go back to 1966 and discover the contributions of the 50th birthday of the National Park Service. Meet at the Ranger Station at 2 p.m.

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NOTICE

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS – Greenbelt Baptist Church, 101 Greenhill Rd at Crescent Rd, Greenbelt. Newcomer welcome meeting Monday, January 8 at 7 p.m. A 12-step support group for people with over and under eating and other problems with food. Info, 240-601-3128 or 240-305-3433

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RATES

CLASSIFIED: \$3.00 minimum for ten words. 15¢ for each additional word. Submit ad with payment to the News Review office by 8 p.m. Tuesday, or to the News Review drop box in the Co-op grocery store before 7 p.m. Tuesday, or mail to 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

BOXED: \$9.80 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$14.70). Deadline 4 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 8 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads.

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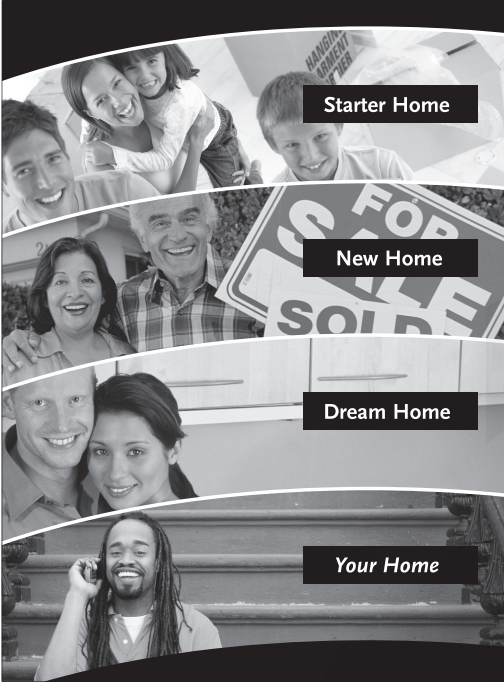
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Free Movies at Theater Echo Marquees from the Thirties

by Chris Cherry

As part of the ongoing Greenbelt Legacy 80th Anniversary celebration, the Old Greenbelt Theatre is presenting a free monthly matinee film series from January through May, featuring significant films that were originally shown in the theater during Greenbelt's early years. The series, which is sponsored by Colorlab, is titled Films For A Better Tomorrow: Films From Yesterday, For Our Future. Film buffs will be delighted with the choice of films, as well as the fact that all five films are 35-mm prints.

The series opens this Sunday, January 7, with Grand Illusion, an acknowledged film masterpiece directed by French director Jean Renoir. The film was originally shown in Greenbelt in January, 1939. The Greenbelt Cooperator noted that it was the first foreign language film ever shown in Greenbelt and that it had received the First Grand Prize by the National Board of Review as the "finest film of the world produced in 1938."

The Cooperator's rave review summarized the plot: "The tale, a powerful story with a real argument against war, concerns the trials of a group of French army officers captured by the Imperial German Army. The sufferings, physical and mental, undergone by officers imprisoned far from home, their attempts at escape, and the successful final trial of two of them are portrayed on a high dramatic level. The impact of war on homes of non-combatants is poignantly portrayed."

The Cooperator concluded, "The play of human emotions, crushed by war yet not to be denied, are felicitously depicted. The futility, the brutality, the utter stupidity of war, [as well as] the hunger for the deeper and finer human relationships are drawn artistically and capably."

The harrowing costs of war and the threat posed by the rise

of fascism are prominent themes in several of the films in the 80th anniversary film series, reflecting the concerns of the times. With memories of the first world war still vivid, Greenbelters and other Americans in the late 1930s watched with dread as fascist regimes came to power and pursued military conquest in Europe and Asia. Americans pondered the grim lessons of the earlier conflict as they debated the extent to which the United States should become involved in the fight against the Axis powers – a debate that was emphatically ended by the attack on Pearl Harbor.

More information about the free 80th Anniversary Films For A Better Tomorrow film series is available on the Old Greenbelt Theatre's website at greenbelt-theatre.org. Grand Illusion will be screened at 12:30 p.m. on January 7. Admission is free.

Civil War Exhibit At Montpelier

Montpelier Mansion will host an exhibit of portraits called Civil War Soldiers: Discovering the Men of the 25th United States Colored Troops. The exhibit opens Friday, January 12 with an opening reception 3 to 8 p.m. including a talk and book signing by the author, 3 to 4 p.m. After viewing an antique photo album of 17 black soldiers from the Civil War, artist Shayne Davidson researched, created a family tree, wrote a biography, and did a life-sized, colored pencil portrait of each man. The exhibit, suitable for all ages, runs through Sunday, March 11, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (closed Wednesdays). There is a fee. This exhibit is sponsored in part by tigerpresentations.com.



Portrait of James Tall by artist Shayne Davidson

Greenbelt History in Photos Pouring Concrete

by James Giese



Pouring concrete mix into a wood sled

(This is the 22nd in a series of articles with photos depicting the early history of Greenbelt.)

Much concrete was used in building Greenbelt homes. It was used for footings and for many of the floors, as well as later for sidewalks, etc. With no paved roads and bad winter weather the first year of construction, getting the mixed cement to the building site became a challenge. The cement mixer truck would come as close as possible without getting mired. To bring it closer, wooden sleds were built into which the cement mixture was poured. Then a bulldozer towed the filled sled to the building site. There, the concrete was shoveled

Photos Courtesy of Library of Congress



Wheelbarrowing concrete mix from sled to site

into wheelbarrows and wheeled down a ramp and dumped where needed, leaving it to the finishers to spread, level and smooth.

Ad Rate Notice

Effective January 1, 2018, the price per inch of display advertising will increase by roughly 2 percent. This is the first increase since 2013 and is needed to offset increased costs. The base price for display ads will increase to \$9.80, a 20-cent increase over the current rate. The nonprofit rate will change to \$6.70, up from \$6.55. Volume discounts are available. The 2018 schedule of discounts is available at Greenbeltnewsreview.com

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Berwyn - Cape Cod with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and large front porch. Ready for rehab - ideal for FHA 203K Program. Priced to sell at \$240,000
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Large Corner Lot 3BR Townhome with one of the largest yards in GHI. Completely updated with granite counters, hardwood flooring & more.

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Chelsea Woods 2 bedroom condo - carpeting and appliances replaced in last 5 yrs. New windows have been replaced. Lots of parking! **\$129,000**
GHI 1-Bedroom End Unit Private stairway leads to this remodeled townhome with NEW doors, windows, siding and baseboard heating. Nice! **\$79,900**
Fenced Corner Lot Backs to protected woods. Hardwood throughout, refinished hardwood flooring, new opened kitchen & more. **\$165,900**
Estate Sale Remodeled 2-bedroom GHI townhome. Modern kitchen with new appliances, hardwood floors and more. Ceramic-tiled bath. **\$119,900**
Two Story Addition Large corner lot with 16'x17' deck that backs to protected woodlands. Addition- 10'x17' BR upstairs & family room on main level.
3 Bedroom Townhome Walk to Roosevelt Center. Hardwood floors throughout. Ceiling fans and pull down attic stairs. Fenced front & back yards.
Large Corner Lot Freshly renovated by GHI. One car garage with garden area and shed. New kitchen with dishwasher & lots of cabinets. **\$129,900**
Brick Townhome 3 bedroom GHI townhome with fenced backyard. Washer and dryer on bedroom level for easy use. Value-priced at \$156,900!
1 BR - Upper Level Remodeled Ceramic-tiled bathroom. Opened kitchen with extra space. Freshly painted throughout. Two window a/c's included.
Spacious Addition Large corner lot with full bathroom and family/bedroom addition. Hardwood floors, tile, updated throughout with modern kitchen, too!
Brick Townhome on Corner Lot 3 Bedroom with one of the best yards in the city. Hardwood floors, bath, paint and refinished hardwood floors.
Fenced Corner Lot 2 Bedroom GHI townhome with spacious living & spacious shed. Hardwood throughout with opened kitchen & more. **\$136,000**
Two Additions 2 Bedroom GHI home with front addit. & full bath on main level. Rear family room addition opens onto large deck & wooded backyard.

Your Greenbelt Specialists
In Roosevelt Center

ERHS Senior Wins Award For Career Finder App

by Jan Wolf

Eleanor Roosevelt High School senior Afe Addeh has taken third place in the Congressional App Challenge (CAC) for District 5 for designing Career Finder, a computer application to help high school students identify suitable careers.

The award announcement came from Congressman Steny Hoyer's office and highlights a nationwide program first introduced by the House of Representatives in 2013 to inspire and encourage students in the STEM education fields. The competition invites students, either individually or in a group of up to four, to create an original software application, or app, for a mobile, tablet or computer platform of their choice. "This year's submissions for the fourth annual App Challenge were extremely impressive, and I congratulate all students who participated," said Hoyer in an-

nouncing the top three winners. "These students put a lot of time and energy into creating their apps, and I applaud them for their hard work and creativity. The skills they've learned and used in this competition will serve them well in their future endeavors."



Congressional App Challenge winner Afe Addeh

PHOTO BY NICOLE BALAY

Modeled off the long-successful Congressional Art Competition, the App Challenge is designed to promote innovation and engagement in STEM, coding and computer science education. High school students who live in or are eligible to attend public schools located in Maryland's Fifth Congressional District were invited, and the winning app will be placed on display in the U.S. Capitol alongside winners from across the country.

For more information on the CAC visit the website congressionalappchallenge.us/.

Kwanzaa Celebration



PHOTO BY LIL DAN CELDRAN

Dan Taylor lights the kinara on the first night of Kwanzaa to celebrate the first of seven principles - Unity (Umoja) with a feast (Karamu) with family and friends. After the feast, friends played games and told stories.

Homeschoolers Adventures



PHOTO BY HEATHER SANTIAGO

Above, Greenbelt Homeschoolers pose near a statue of George Washington during a visit to the Maryland State House in Annapolis on December 11, organized by Ili Horcheler and Renee Cooper. Washington resigned his commission from the Continental Army at the State House on December 23, 1783.



PHOTO BY LIZ MURRAY

Above and left, Liz Murray coordinated a holiday community service project for Greenbelt Homeschoolers at SOME (So Others Might Eat). The children packed and wrapped boxes of toiletries and winter items for children and adults on November 13.



PHOTO BY LIZ MURRAY



PHOTO BY MARY MURCHISON-EDWARDS

The Full Wolf Moon as seen over Greenbelt on New Year's Day is one of two supermoons that will appear overhead in January. The name harkens to Native American and colonial times, when wolves howled in hunger, according to the Farmer's Almanac. When two full or supermoons moons occur in the same calendar month, the second is called a Blue Moon.

visit www.greenbeltnewsreview.com

Silk Painting Show At Owings Mills

Diane Tuckman is an eclectic artist, silk painter, photographer, instructor, business owner and published author as well as the mother of Greenbelt News Review delivery manager Ian Tuckman. Her work will be presented at the Meyerhoff Gallery at the Gordon Center for Performing Arts in Owings Mills with an opening reception on Sunday, January 14 from 2 to 3 p.m. prior to the music performance at 3 p.m. The opening offers the opportunity for visitors to paint on silk and take their work home.

As a silk painting pioneer in America, Tuckman teaches, paints and exhibits her own silk paintings and promotes the art form through her educational programs. As a photographer, she exhibits work that captures the eccentricity of nature and daily life.

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